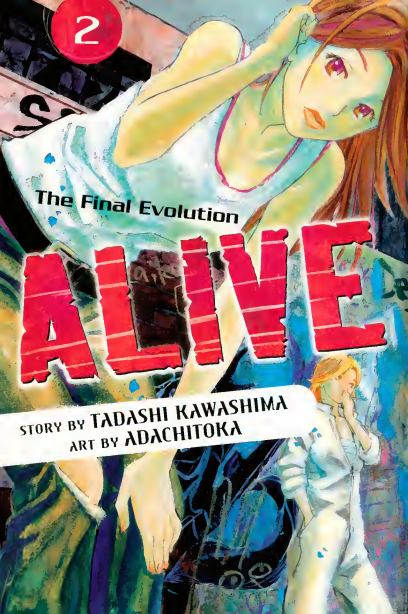


The cover features a large, expressive illustration of a young woman with long, flowing brown hair and purple eyes. She is wearing a white tank top with a pink trim and is reclining with one arm raised behind her head. The background is a vibrant, abstract collage of colors and textures, including shades of blue, green, and purple. In the bottom right corner, there is a smaller illustration of a young man with blonde hair, wearing a white lab coat, looking down with a thoughtful expression. The overall style is characteristic of Japanese manga art, with bold lines and a rich color palette.

2

The Final Evolution

ALIVE

STORY BY TADASHI KAWASHIMA
ART BY ADACHITOKA

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Tadashi Kawashima

The story gets better as you read it!
That's *ALIVE*!

Thank you ♡



Adachitoka

It's forever summertime in the manga.
I wish I could draw the characters in winter
clothes....

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

- san:** This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.
- sama:** This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.
- dono:** This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

- kun:** This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.
- chan:** This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.
- Bozu:** This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/

Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Alive

2

Writer/ Tadashi Kawashima
Artist/ Adachitoka

story

Taisuke Kanou lived with his older sister, who had raised him since their parents passed away. He always protected his close friend, Yuichi Hirose, from bullies, and always argued with his childhood girlfriend, Megumi Ochiai. His peaceful, everyday life was shattered when a string of mass suicides occurred around the world during the week dubbed "Nightmare Week."

An illusion of floating in the middle of the universe. A girl jumping to her death, smiling peacefully. The slaughtered bodies of four upperclassmen bullies surrounding Hirose as he denied any wrongdoing. A classmate who looked at the brutally murdered bodies nonchalantly as she jumped to her death. The strange stare of Deputy Inspector Katsumata, who interrogated Hirose as a murder suspect. And Taisuke's encounter with the random murderer, Yura, who considered him to be a "comrade" – Taisuke experienced stranger incidents by the day, but he yearned to go back to his normal life someday.

Taisuke Kanou

High school student used to fight, but has a strong sense of justice. Both parents died, so he lives alone with his older sister.



Yuichi Hirose

Taisuke's close friend. Has a calm face, but is rather shy, wanting him to ease him of bullying by representing.



Megumi Ochiai

Taisuke's childhood girlfriend. She always ends up arguing with Taisuke because she worries about him so much.



Yuko Kanou

Taisuke's older sister and also school nurse. Strong-willed woman who raised Taisuke after their parents died.



contents

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	<i>I don't want to go home in the dark.</i>	
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	<i>Live well. It is the greatest protest.</i>	
Chapter 7	For What?	150
	<i>Men are not against you, they are merely for themselves.</i>	

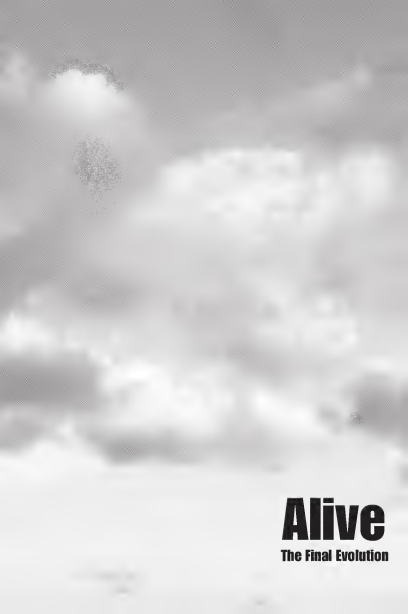
But his wish was in vain. Hirose, returning to the reopened school, was no longer his old self. He forcefully led Megumi and was over-confident, claiming that he actually killed the upperclassmen bullies. He then tried to kill Taisuke with his newly acquired superhuman powers, but instead, accidentally pushed Megumi off the roof. Taisuke jumped off the roof, trying to save her. There was no way the two could survive that fall, but somehow, they landed safely and stayed alive. Unfortunately, Taisuke was seriously injured from the fall and lost consciousness. Hirose never looked back as he kidnapped Megumi and disappeared...

Shigeki Katsumata
Discovered when Metropolitan Hirose as a murder suspect. Seemed to be investigating Hirose.

Takumi Yura

Mysterious man is connected with superhuman powers who claims to be a leader of humans, but elsewhere people mysterious.





Alive

The Final Evolution



I'M GOING
TO MY
"COMRADES."



GOODBYE.



WAIT...

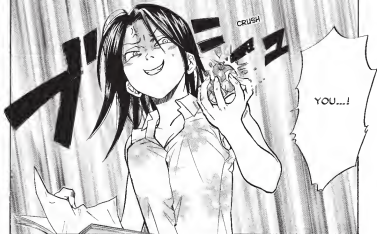




Chapter 4

Any Normal Human Would Normally...

I don't want to go home in the dark.







TELL ME,
SIS!



MEGU!
WHERE IS
MEGU?!

AND
HIROE!



ARE
MISSING.



BOTH OF
THEM...



SHIT!





READ
THIS.



THREE
DAYS AGO,
THERE WERE
BRUTAL
MURDERS
THERE.

RECOGNIZE
THIS POLICE
STATION?

IT'S WHERE
HIROSE-KUN
WAS TAKEN
INTO CUSTODY.



WASN'T
HE THE ONE
INTERROGATING
HIROSE-KUN?

...AND, THE
ONLY PERSON
STILL MISSING
WAS DEPUTY
INSPECTOR
KATSUMATA.



THE POLICE ARE
INVESTIGATING
POSSIBLE
CONNECTIONS
BETWEEN
THOSE TWO.



HIROSE-KUN
DISAPPEARED
THAT SAME
DAY, TOO...

...clock on the night
of the 12th, the father of a
high school girl (16) called
911 to have the police locate
her whereabouts.
The high school girl attended
the same school as Boy H, and
is witnessed to be with him
earlier on the 12th. They were
seen at the Central Post
station.

High
school
girl
missing
Nakano-ku



YOU GUYS
WERE
DEFINITELY
MIXED UP IN
SOMETHING!

ADD TO THAT
YOUR PECULIAR
WOUNDS...



AH...



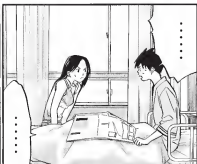
JUST
WHAT IS
GOING ON
HERE?



TELL
ME!



THE POLICE
ASKED ME
ALL SORTS OF
QUESTIONS!
I THINK
THEY'LL
COME ASK
YOU, TOO...





THAT
IDIOT...!



I'M
BACK -



WHAT IS HE
TRYING TO DO IN
THAT CONDITIONE!

HE'S GOT A
HOLE IN HIS
STOMACH!!



WHERE'D
YOU GO,
TAISUKE!



GOSHI

WHAT THE
HECK IS
GOING ON?!



JUST
WHAT IS
GOING
ON?!

SOMEONE
TELL ME!



SO, WHY
AM I
ALIVE?!



I DEFINITELY
FELL OFF
THAT ROOF!

ANY NORMAL
HUMAN WOULD
NORMALLY DIE
FROM A FALL
LIKE THAT.



WHY
DOESN'T IT
HURT...?



OH
WAIT... MY
WOUNDS...

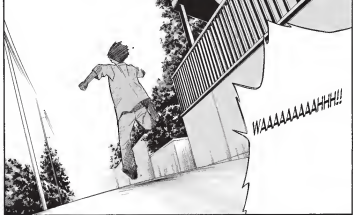


IT'S
ONLY
BEEN
THREE
DAYS...



ANY
NORMAL
HUMAN

WOULD
NORMALLY
BE IN
PAIN...







IT'S
ALREADY
BEEN THREE
DAYS!



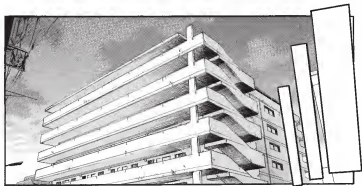
"HIRO
KIDNAPPED
MEGU."

I CAN'T
SAY THAT
TO THEM!



RUSTLE

I NEED
TO FIND
THEM
FIRST!!







HIRO-CHAN
NEVER CAME
BACK.

A BUNCH OF
POLICEMEN
CAME HERE
TO ASK ABOUT
MEGU-CHAN'S
DISAPPEAR-
ANCE, TOO.



HERE! SIT
HERE AND
CALM DOWN!

WHERE'S
HIRO...



HIRO-CHAN'S
MOTHER
RECENTLY
DIED, TOO.
WHAT IN THE
WORLD IS
GOING ON...



CLENCH
ぢぢぢ



YOU NEED
SOME
CLOTHES!
I'LL GO FIND
MY SON'S
CLOTHING...



THE THREE
OF YOU
USED
TO PLAY
TOGETHER...

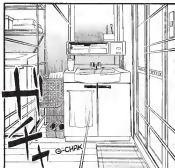
Stupid
↓

TAISUKI WAS HERE

↑
It's actually
"Taisuke"



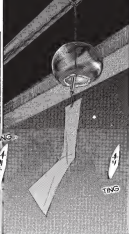
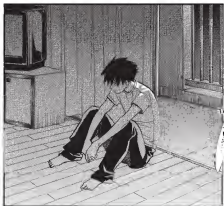


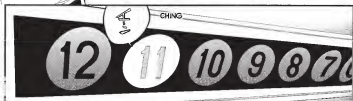








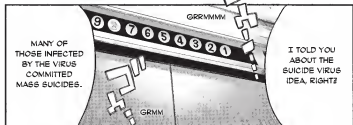












MANY OF
THOSE INFECTED
BY THE VIRUS
COMMITTED
MASS SUICIDES.

I TOLD YOU
ABOUT THE
SUICIDE VIRUS
IDEA, RIGHT?



EVOLVED.

BUT THOSE FEW
THAT WERE
INFECTED BUT
DIDN'T DIE -
"COMRADES" LIKE
YOU AND ME...



YOU'LL
NEED TO
ACCEPT
THIS FACT!



COMPARED
TO THOSE
THAT DIED
AND THE
SCUM LEFT
OVER...

WE'RE AT
A HIGHER
LEVEL.





BRING
KANOU-
KUN WITH
US?



THE OLD MAN
KATSUMATA
WASN'T TOO
THRILLED AT
THE IDEA,
THOUGH.



...NOT NOW.

NOT WHILE
HIROSE-KUN
IS WITH US.









FIZZ

POP

AH...

AHH...!

GOOD
RIDDANCE...

DAMN
SCUM...





OTHERWISE,
THEY'LL JUST
ROT LIKE THE
SCUM THEY
ARE.

I SUPPOSE
THEY SHOULD
SPLATTER LIKE
A MASTER-
PIECE IN THEIR
FINAL MOMENT,
THOUGH.



OH, BUT THEY
WON'T LEAVE
ANY BONES...



SO I GUESS
THEY CAN'T
EVEN BE A
FOSSIL, HUH?



KYAAAHH!



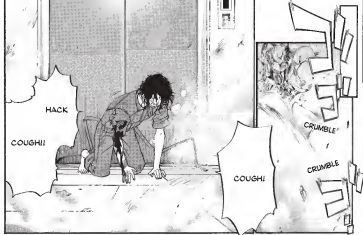














KANOU
TAISUKE,
HUH...

AND HE
HASN'T
FIGURED IT
OUT YET?

What an
idiot.

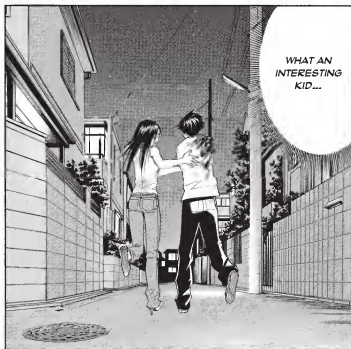


Hey
you!!

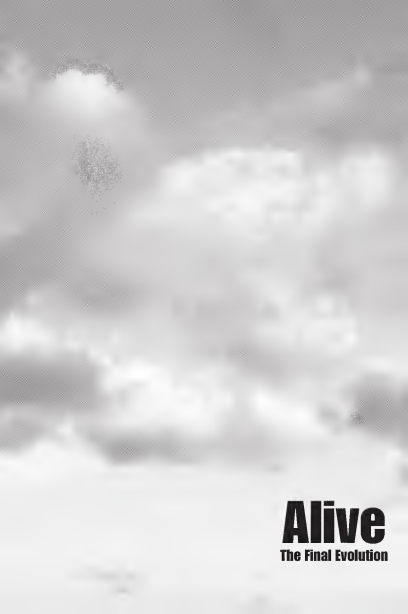


BUT THIS
IS THE
FIRST
TIME

I
RECEIVED
THIS
MUCH
DAMAGE.



WHAT AN
INTERESTING
KID...



Alive

The Final Evolution



SORRY
TO MAKE
YOU
WORRIED.

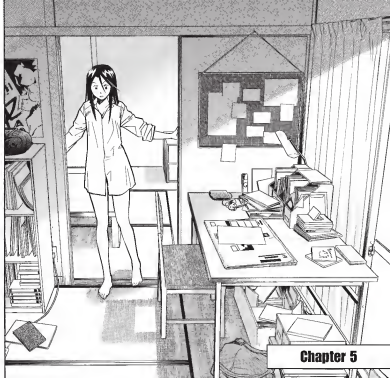
I'LL EXPLAIN
EVERYTHING...

TOMORROW...

GOOD - ...

BUT HE'D
BETTER
TELL ME
EVERYTHING
TODAY.

...I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HIM...



Chapter 5

I'm Leaving.

What can I do?

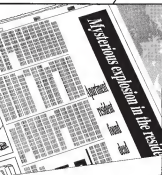
To sis,
I'm leaving for a long while.
Actually, it might not take that long, but
I'll go look for Negu and Kira.
I thought about it last night.
But I can't imagine life
And all this bad stuff.

"LEAVING
FOR A LONG
WHILE..."?

No way...

"TO SIS,
I'M..."

?



To sis,
I'm leaving for a long while.
Actually, it might not take that long, but...
I'll go look for Negu and Kira.

I'M LEAVING
FOR A LONG
WHILE.

TO SIS,

NO
WAY...

EH?





IT'S
PROBABLY
MY FAULT
THAT SOME
PEOPLE
DIED.



BUT

AND
ACTUALLY,
I REALLY
DON'T KNOW
EITHER.

YOU
PROBABLY
HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
I'M TALKING
ABOUT.



GRASP

HOW...!



ONCE I
BRING BACK
MEGU AND
HIRO, I'LL
EXPLAIN IT
TO YOU.

UNTIL THEN,
PLEASE
DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT ME.





HOW
DARE
YOU!!

...SO, I'M
LEAVING.



SIS WILL
BE IN
DANGER...!

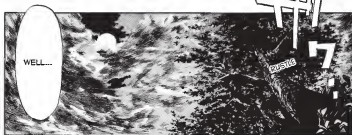
BUT IF
I STAY
HERE

SHE WON'T
BUY THAT...
FOR SURE...

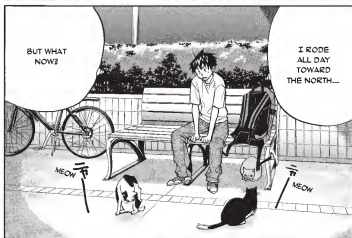
Sigh

WHRRR





WELL...



BUT WHAT
NOW?

I RODE
ALL DAY
TOWARD
THE NORTH...



RUMBLE

CLUES...



THE ONLY
CLUE TO
FIND THOSE
TWO IS
"NORTH"...

IF I GO
THERE, I
MIGHT FIND
THEM.

THAT GUY
SAID DEPUTY
INSPECTOR
KATSUMATA
WAS WITH
MEGU AND
HIRO.

HE KEPT
REFERRING
TO A
"COMRADE."
WHAT DOES
HE MEAN BY
THAT?



WAAAA.
COMRADE!
COMRADE!

EVOLVED.

BUT THOSE
FEW THAT
WERE
INFECTED BUT
DIDN'T DIE -
"COMRADES"
LIKE YOU AND
ME...



HIRO, THAT
GUY, AND
KATSUMATA
ARE
"COMRADES"?

OF COURSE.
HE'S A
"COMRADE"
TOO.

I'M GOING
TO MY
"COMRADES."

EVEN
HIRO
SAID
THAT.



I HAVE
SPECIAL
POWERS
NOW!



ME
TOO...?



"COM-
RADE,"
TOO,
KANOU-
KUN...



OH... SO
YOU WERE A
"COMRADE"
TOO, KANOU-
KUN...



ALSO, MY
STOMACH
WOUND
HEALED TOO
QUICKLY.



I'M FINE,
EVEN
AFTER I
FELL FROM
THAT ROOF.



HOW
WAS I
ABLE TO
BLOCK
IT!?

AND
LAST
NIGHT...



IF...



IF I'M A
"COMRADE"
LIKE THEY
SAY...



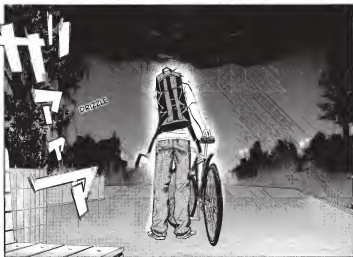
I ALSO
HAVE
"POWERS"...



THEN
I...









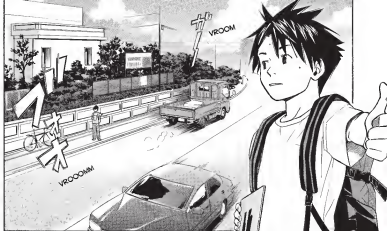


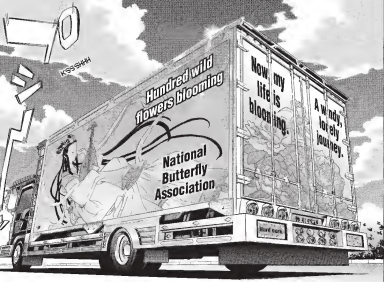




GO
AHEAD.

KILL
HIM.



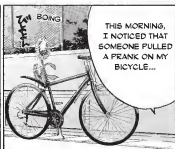




WHAT'S
THAT?



THAT'S
NOT WHAT
I MEANT.







SO,
TAISUKE.



DON'T TELL
ME YOU'RE
WANDERING
ABOUT LIKE A
LONE WOLF?

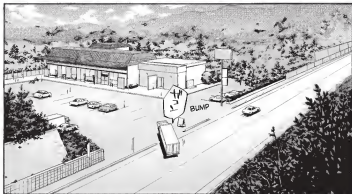
AHAHA,
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT!



YOU'RE A
STUDENT,
RIGHT?
RUNNING
AWAY FROM
HOME?

...BUT WAIT,
YOU HAVE A
DESTINATION...





GET
OFF.

AND TAKE
DOWN YOUR
BICYCLE,
TOO.



THIS IS A TRUCK
STOP. I COME
HERE OFTEN TO
EAT AND TAKE
NAPS...



HU?Z
WHY?

HEY, COULD
YOU FIX THIS
BICYCLE
REAL QUICK?



HEY,
RYOU!

HEY
THERE.

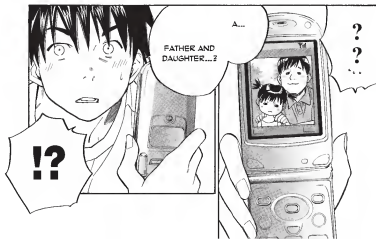




カ
レ
ー

GRRRRM







IS MY DARLING
AND CUTE LITTLE
GIRL, ALMOST
THREE YEARS OLD.



THIS



AREN'T
THEY SO
ADORABLE?



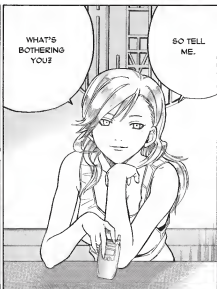
THINK
OF IT
THIS
WAY.

...BUT
WHY'D
YOU
SHARE IT
WITH ME?

I-
I WON'T!!

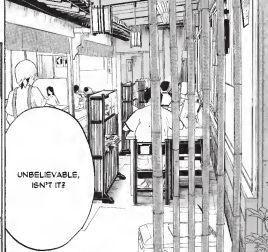
CLAP

DON'T YOU
DARE MENTION
THIS TO THE
GUYS OUTSIDE.





UNBELIEVABLE,
ISN'T IT?



BUT THERE
REALLY WERE
MASS SUICIDES
AND MYSTERIOUS
DEATHS...



HMM...



AND THERE'S
NO REASON
YOU'D LIE TO
ME, TAISUKE...



ARE YOU
WORRIED
ABOUT
YOUR TWO
FRIENDS?

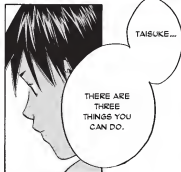




OF
COURSE.

BUT...

WHAT
CAN I
DO?



TAISUKE...

THERE ARE
THREE
THINGS YOU
CAN DO.





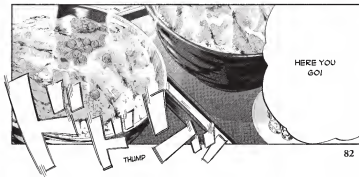
SLEEP.



GO
NORTH.

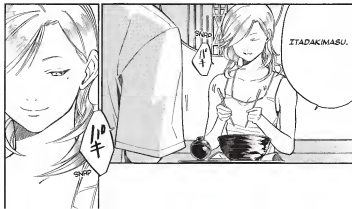


AND
EAT.



HERE YOU
GO!

THUMP





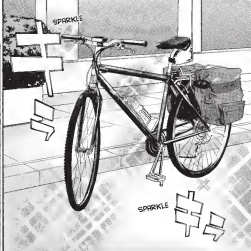
THIS
PROBABLY
MARKED...



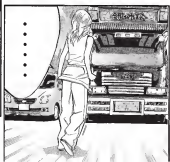
ITADAKIMASU!



THE START
OF MY LONG
JOURNEY.







I CAN'T
SEEM
TO GET
THROUGH.

FOR
SOME
REASON...



HERE,
YOU
TRY,
TOO.

WHAT?

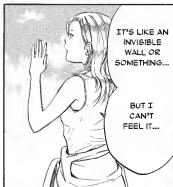


WHAT'S
WRONG?

OH?

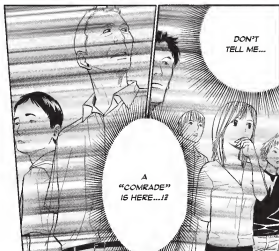
SEE?

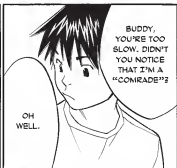
...YOU'RE
RIGHT!

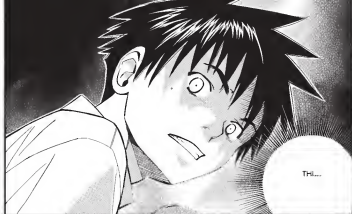














Alive

The Final Evolution

AND A TRUCK
DRIVER, RYOU,
BROUGHT ME
TO THIS TRUCK
STOP, BUT...

I LEFT
HOME TO
GO FIND
MEGU AND
HIRO...

BUDDY, YOU'RE TOO
SLOW. DIDN'T YOU
NOTICE THAT I'M A
"CONRADE"?

OH GOSH...
DON'T TELL
ME...

RYOU! THIS
DRIVE-IN
RESTAURANT
SEEMS TO BE
SURROUNDED
BY A BARRIER!

WE'RE
TRAPPED!?

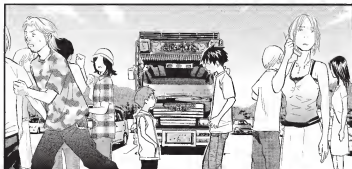
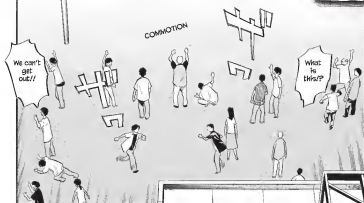
WHAT'S
YOUR NAME,
BUDDY? WHAT
POWERS DO
YOU HAVE?

I'M
YUTA.

Here, Forever...

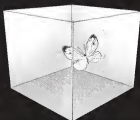
Live well. It is the greatest protest.



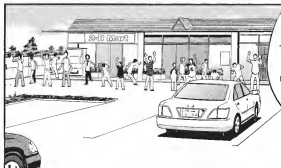




IT'S A
WORLD OF
ITS OWN,
COMPLETELY
SEALED
OFF FROM
EVERYTHING.



NOTHING CAN
ENTER OR
LEAVE THIS
SPACE.

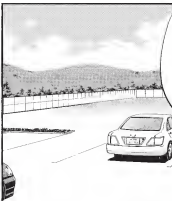


THE SAME THING
IS HAPPENING
TO THIS DRIVE-
IN RESTAURANT.



WHAT
...!!

NOW, I HAVE
A QUESTION.



FROM THE
OUTSIDE, THIS
AREA LOOKS
LIKE AN OPEN
SPACE.



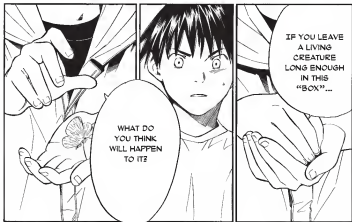
AND SHUT
OFF FROM ALL
SIGNALS...



CLICK + CLICK
INSIDE THIS
"BOX," CUT
OFF FROM
AIR AND
ELECTRICITY...

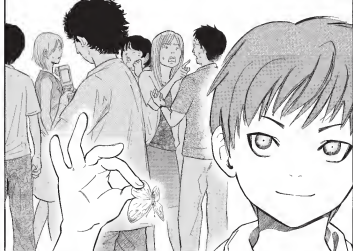


AND
EVEN
AIR...



WHAT DO
YOU THINK
WILL HAPPEN
TO IT?

IF YOU LEAVE
A LIVING
CREATURE
LONG ENOUGH
IN THIS
"BOX"...





DIDN'T YOU
GET THE
ORDER?

BUDDY,
AREN'T YOU A
"CONRADE"?



...WHY ARE
YOU DOING
THIS...?



THE
ORDER TO
"DIE"...?



I WAS
ALMOST
PULLED
INTO IT...



I FELT IT
WHEN I
SAW MY
MOTHER
DIE.



EVEN IF
YOU'RE NOT
AWARE OF
IT...

DIDN'T YOU
WANT TO DIE
WHEN YOU
SAW SOME-
ONE ELSE
DIE IN FRONT
OF YOU?





THE REST
OF THE
PEOPLE
HAVEN'T
FIGURED IT
OUT YET.

MY MOTHER
DIED DURING
THAT WEEK OF
SUICIDES...

BUT SHE
DIED SO
PEACEFULLY.



SO I'M
GOING TO
TEACH
THEM...



...YOU'RE
WRONG.



ABOUT
THE
VALUE
OF
DEATH.





TOTAL
WIMP!

...URG.

HAHA! LOOKS
LIKE YOUR
POWERS
ARE USE-
LESS AGAINST
MINE, BUDDY.

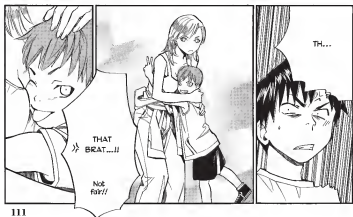
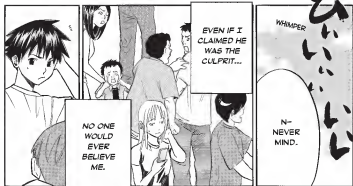


THERE'S
ONE WAY TO
UNDO THIS
ISOLATION,
BUDDY...



JUST
KILL
ME.







LET'S
PLAY A
GAME.



OH HEY,
USELESS
BUDDY.

WHAT!?



I WON'T DO
ANYTHING
ELSE...

SO IF YOU
CAN BREAK
THIS BARRIER,
IT'S YOUR
WIN, BUDDY.

THERE'S ONLY
ABOUT FOUR
HOURS WORTH
OF AIR IN
HERE.



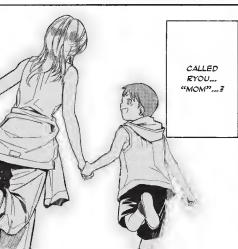
JUST KILL
ME.



OR, YOU
CAN TRY A
SIMPLER
SOLUTION...

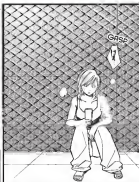
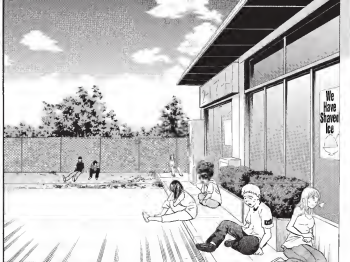


IF YOU
DON'T,
IT'S GAME
OVER.











DON'T
YOU NEED
A DRINK,
TOO,
YUTAZ?

I FEEL
BETTER
ALL OF A
SUDDEN...

I'LL BE
FINE! I'M A
GENTLEMAN!



- ERR, I
MEANT I
HAD THIS
ALL ALONG!
HERE!!

...HMZ



I RAN BY TO
MY HOUSE
AROUND THE
CORNER...

It
Was!



THANKS.



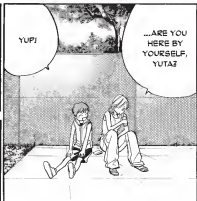
HAHA!
WELL, IF
THAT'S
THE CASE,
I'LL HAVE
SOME.



MOM AND
I USED
TO COME
HERE
OFTEN.



LOOK
OVER
THERE.



YUP!

...ARE YOU
HERE BY
YOURSELF,
YUTAZ?



MY MOM
DID
THAT.



YOU SEE
THAT DENT
IN THE
FENCE?

HAI?
OH
YEAH...



BUT SHE
KEPT
CRASHING.

MOM WAS A
BAD DRIVER,
SO SHE
ALWAYS
PRACTICED IN
THIS PARKING
LOT...



BUT IT WAS
REALLY
FUN.



THE
RESTAURANT
OWNERS
ALWAYS
CHEWED US
OUT...



I LIKE
THIS
PLACE.

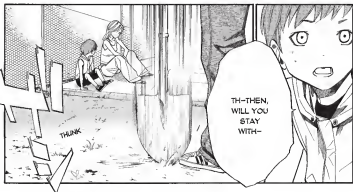
THAT'S
WHY...



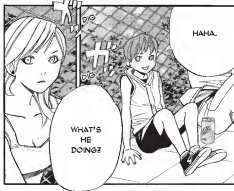
I LIKE
THE FOOD
HERE.



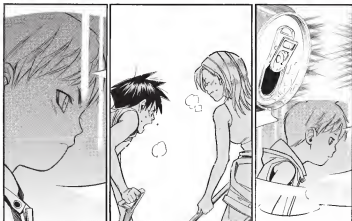
ME,
TOO.



TH-THEN,
WILL YOU
STAY
WITH-





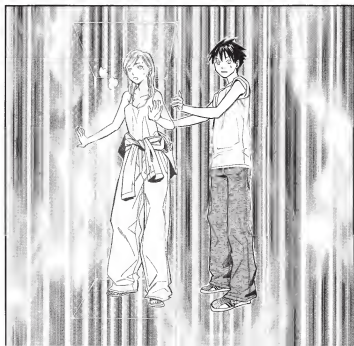














YOU TRY TO
KILL EVERYONE
BUT RELEASE
THEM, AND ASK
ME TO KILL YOU
BUT THEN YOU
TELL ME TO GO
AWAY!!

YOU
MAKE NO
SENSE!!



URGH!

WHY
YOU...!



Hah!

AND NOW, YOU
LOCKED IN
RYOU-SAN -



YOU
WANT...

RYOU-SAN
TO STAY
WITH YOUZ

OH WAIT...
YOU...



YOU
WOULDN'T
FEED
SOMEONE
IF YOU'RE
GONNA KILL
THEM!



THEN WHY
DID YOU
GIVE HER
FOOD AND
DRINK?!

NO...



"MOM"....!

...AND YOU
CALLED
RYOU-SAN...



NO!

JUST SO THAT
YOU COULD BE
WITH RYOU-SAN
IN PLACE OF
YOUR "MOM"!!

YOU ISOLATED
EVERYONE,
NOT TO KILL
THEM, BUT...



NO...

YOU KNOW...
YOU'RE
ONLY A
LITTLE BOY,
AFTER ALL...



THAT'S
WHY... I
NEED TO
DIE...!

I WAS
ORDERED
TO
"DIE"...!



I...

I...



SO KILL
ME NOW!



I WON'T
DO ANY
OF THAT!

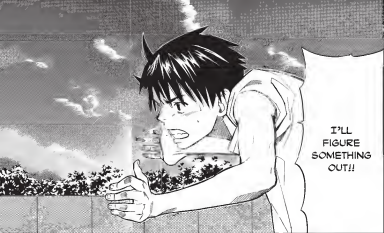
MAKE
YOUR
CHOICE...

YOU CAN
EITHER
KILL ME
OR WATCH
HER DIE!



WHAT...
THE
HECK...

CHOOSE
NOW!!



I'LL
FIGURE
SOMETHING
OUT!!



I...



I...







I REALLY
HAVE
POWERS...



THEN I
NEED
TO...

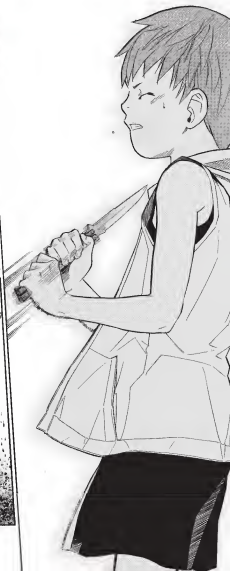


USE THEM
NOW!!

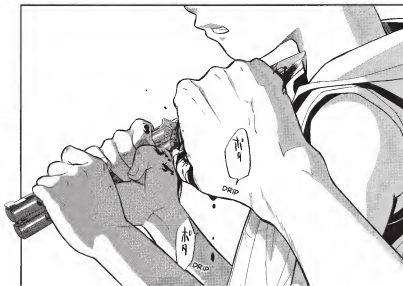


SPOKE

「アキハ」...

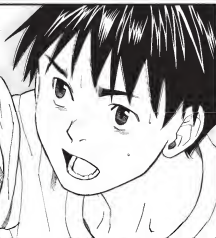






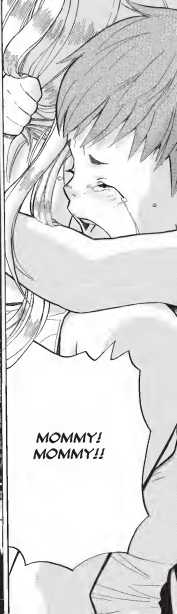


...YOU
DON'T
WANT
TO DIE,
RIGHT?





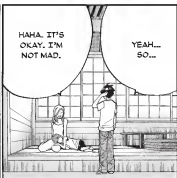




**MOMMY!
MOMMY!!**

WAAAAAAAAH!

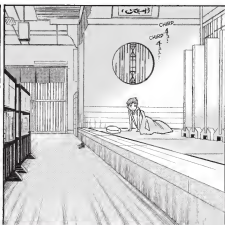




HEAT...?

IS MY
POWER...

NMM...





SORRY,
YUTAI
RYOU-
SAN LEFT
ALREADY.



OH, GOOD
MORNING.



BUT, SHE
LEFT YOU
THIS NOTE.

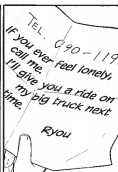


SHE WAS
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU,
BUT SHE HAD
TO RETURN TO
HER FAMILY...



WHAT
ARE YOU
STILL
DOING
HERE,
TAISUKE?

...GEE,
SHE LEFT
BEFORE
I COULD
APOLOGIZE
TO HER.





YOU.



WHO?

UHM, I WAS
WAITING FOR
SOMEONE.



HOP
ON. I'LL
TAKE YOU
HOME.



...MY
HOME IS
REALLY
FAR.

WHERE
IS IT?

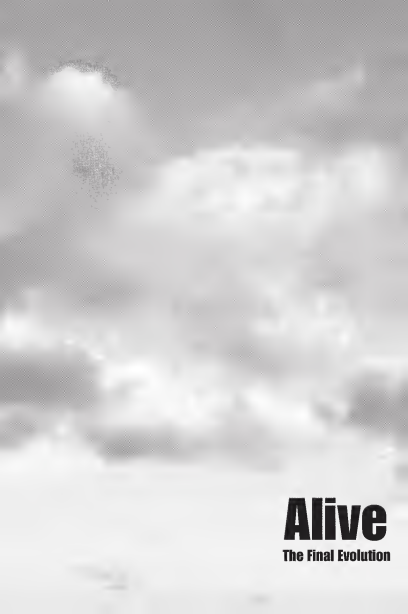


SO...YOU
WERE WAITING
FOR ME...

OH...

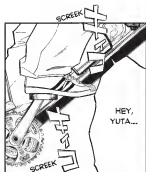


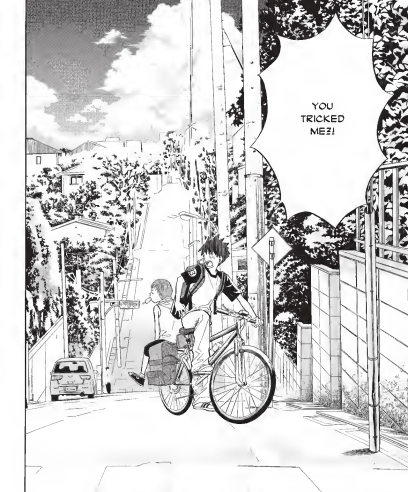
最終進化的少年



Alive

The Final Evolution





YOU
TRICKED
ME?!

Chapter 7

For What?

Men are not against you, they are merely for themselves.



HE'S A
THIRD-
GRADE
BRAT.

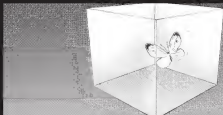
THIS KID
IS YUTA
TAKIZAWA.



HE HAS
STRANGE
POWERS
LIKE HIROSE
AND HIS
"COMRADES."

BUT
HE'S NO
ORDINARY
BRAT.

HIS POWER IS
"ISOLATION."



HE HAS THE
POWER TO
ISOLATE
AN AREA,
SEPARAT-
ING IT FROM
THE OUTSIDE
WORLD.



IN FACT, HE
ISOLATED THE
WHOLE DRIVE-
IN RESTAURANT
AREA AND
TRAPPED EVERY-
ONE INSIDE IT.



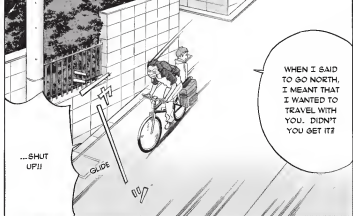
SHUT
UP!!

HEY,
TAISUKE,
NORTH IS
THAT WAY.



BUT...

IT WAS
JUST A
CHILDISH
TANTRUM
TO AVOID
LONELINESS...





OCHIAI-
SAN.

KNOCK
G-CHIK
KNOCK

HOW
ARE YOU
FEELING?





...THEN LET
ME GO,
HIROSE-KUN.



I FEEL
BAD FOR
LOCKING
YOU UP...



WHERE'S
TAISUKE?!

CLUNK

I'M GLAD
YOU FEEL
BETTER,
BUT...

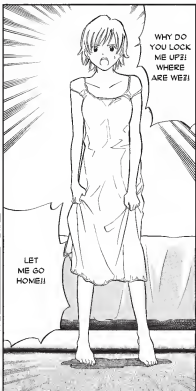


IS HE
OKAY?!

TAISUKE
FELL
OFF THE
ROOF,
TOO!!

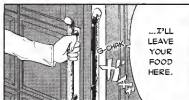
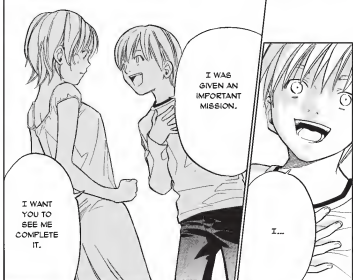


...OCHIAI-SAN



WHY DO
YOU LOCK
ME UP?!
WHERE
ARE WE?!

LET
ME GO
HOME!!









WHATEVER!

Boo
Boo

Rrrrrrr

I HATE
FISH! I
HATE
TOUCHING
IT, TOO!!



WE'LL COOK
FISH! GOTTA
CATCH
THEM FIRST,
THOUGH!

Hahaha

WHAT
ABOUT
FOOD?!

SO
HELP
ME
OUT!



SPLASH

SPLASH



Hahaha

BUT THIS
IS SO
FUN...

AND THE
WATER IS
SO NICE
AND COOL



GIGGLE



OOPS!

AWW,
IT GOT
AWAY!

SPLASH



GRIN

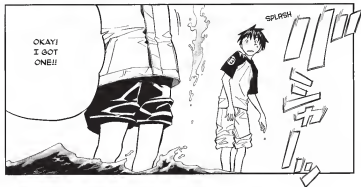
I-I'LL
DO IT,
TOO!

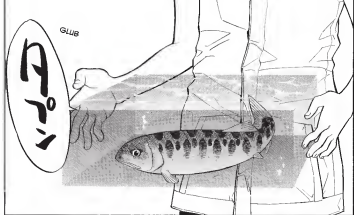
Heh heh

DUMB-
ASS...



SPLASH







WHERE
IS IT?!

YOU CAN'T
FIND YOUR
WAY AROUND,
AND CAN'T
EVEN FISH.
YOU'RE SO
USELESS...!



YOU ALSO
FORGOT A
LIGHTER?!



OH
YEAH!

.....



YOU
MELTED A
KNIFE
YESTERDAY.

YOU
MIGHT BE
ABLE TO
START A
FIRE WITH
ALL THAT
HEAT.



HUHE

HEY,
TAISUKE,
LIGHT IT
YOURSELF.



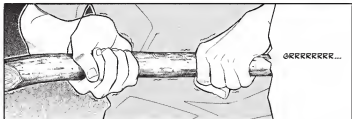


...THE
BRANCH
IS TOO
THIN.

ONCE
MORE!



HUMPH!



GRRRRRRRR...



DON'T
DEMOTE ME
TO WANSUKE!

WHYZ!
WHY
CAN'T I
DO IT?!

HEY.



SIGH.

SILENCE



C'MON....!

YOU NEED
TO FULLY
UNDERSTAND
YOUR POWER
AND VISUALIZE
ITS EFFECT.

YOU'RE
JUST
TENSING
UP.



YOU
MEAN...
YOU USED
YOUR POWER
SUBCON-
SCIOUSLY?

YOU'RE
WEIRD...



EH?

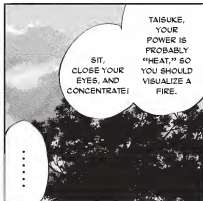
He talks
smart...

...SO
HOW DO
I DO
THAT?



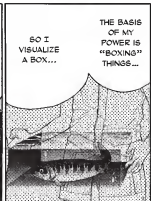
SIT,
CLOSE YOUR
EYES, AND
CONCENTRATE!

TAISUKE,
YOUR
POWER IS
PROBABLY
"HEAT," SO
YOU SHOULD
VISUALIZE A
FIRE.



SO I
VISUALIZE
A BOX...

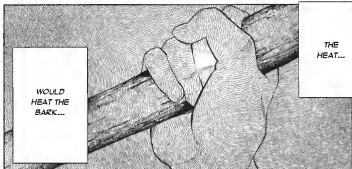
THE BASIS
OF MY
POWER IS
"BOXING"
THINGS...





IF MY
POWERS
CAME
OUT
OF MY
HAND...

MY
POWER IS
"HEAT."



WOULD
HEAT THE
BARK...

THE
HEAT...



FZZZ...



...

FZZ...



AND
BURST
INTO A
FLAME.







Mystery of the Mass Suicides Part 3

Mass Suicides

Were a Precursor to Geologic Catastrophe!

Lemning phenomena?

YOUR ARTICLE THIS WEEK WAS FANTASTIC!

The hidden human condition

This week an epidemic of suicides claimed victims all over the world for reasons still unknown.

But Michio Abe, a former scientist at the Disaster Prevention Science Lab, gave a statement:

"Organisms exhibit abnormal behaviors in

response to major magnetic shifts. Humans, after all, are organisms too, so it could be assumed that they were affected by changes in the Earth, too."

Beached whales and herds of lemmings jumping into the sea could be seen as mass suicides, also.

These behaviors are borne from environmental stresses and external causes which might induce mass hysteria.

"Usually, Abe con-

"This phenomenon never occurred before. Advancements in the living environment surpassed the pace of technological advancements, causing great changes. Mankind could not adjust fast enough to these rapid changes. It could be possible that humans could not adapt well to the rapid changes so the brain panicked and it resulted in abnormal behavior. If so, what triggered it?"

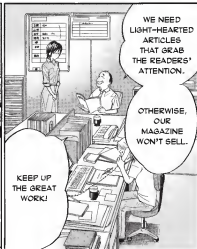
are people open to and their own lives? Theories like the Suicide Virus, etc. overlook the strange behavior of animals. A complete analysis from which, new perspective.

GOOD WRITING!



SO DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF, OKAY?

YOU KNOW, SERIOUS ARTICLES DON'T SELL.



KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

WE NEED LIGHT-HEARTED ARTICLES THAT GRAB THE READERS' ATTENTION.

OTHERWISE, OUR MAGAZINE WON'T SELL.



AMAMIYA-KUN



Dammit!
Dammit!

BONK

BANG

BONK

YOU
SHOULDN'T
TALK TO
HER NOW...

Let's
go.

AMAMIYA'S
AT IT
AGAIN...



DO YOU
HAVE
MENO-
FAUSE?



AWW
BUMMER,
STRESSED
OUT AGAIN,
ANAMIYA-
SAN?



...WELL,
THERE'S
REALLY
NOTHING
YOU CAN
DO.



OUR
MAGAZINE
HANDLES
OCCULT
FARCE...

SO WE'RE
NOT TAKEN
SERIOUSLY.

NOT YOU TOO,
ODA-CHAN -



Rinoko

YEAH,
YOUR
LEMMING
THEORY
IS PRETTY
FAR OUT.

I DIDN'T
JOIN THIS
COMPANY
TO WRITE
TRASHY
ARTICLES
LIKE THAT!



I WANT TO
WRITE A
SERIOUS
ARTICLE
ABOUT IT!

NIGHTMARE
WEEK WAS
A GLOBAL
TRAGEDY!



BUT THIS
CASE ISN'T
OVER YET!



HOW CAN
YOU SAY
THAT!
THERE'S NO
PROOF OF A
VIRUS YET!

Whodis!

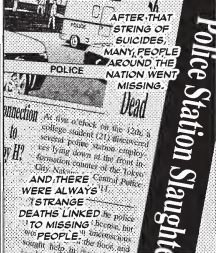
HEY, THE SUI-
CIDE VIRUS
SEEMS MORE
BELIEVABLE...

BESIDES,
I THINK
BOTH
THEORIES
ARE FAR-
FETCHED
ANYWAY!



HUMANS
COULDN'T
POSSIBLY
DISFIGURE
BODIES
LIKE THAT.

THERE'S
SOMETHING
ABOUT
THOSE DEAD
BODIES...



AFTER THAT
STRING OF
SUICIDES,
MANY PEOPLE
AROUND THE
NATION WENT
MISSING.

Dead

connection
to
H?
As for a check on the 12th, a
college student (21) discovered
several police station employ-
ees lying down at the front in-
formation counter of the Tokyo
City, Naka...

AND THERE
WERE ALWAYS
STRANGE

DEATHS LINKED

TO MISSING

PEOPLE...
the floor, and
sought help by

Police Station Slaught



I DON'T
KNOW...

GRAB

YOU MEAN...
MASS SUICIDES,
MISSING PEOPLE,
AND STRANGE
DEATHS ARE
SOMEHOW
CONNECTED?



YES!

I KNOW
WHAT TO
DO!

AT A HIGH
SCHOOL IN
TOKYO... IF I
CHECK THAT
PLACE...

BUT
THERE
IS A
PLACE...

WHERE
ALL THREE
INCIDENTS
OCCURRED.



I'LL
START
WITH...



I'VE DECIDED!
I'M GOING TO
RE-INVESTIGATE
THIS!



Students
questioned
for the
brutal
high school
murders



Yuichi Hirose (16)
Boy 4

10. (16)

Missing

Tatsuro Kanou (16)
Childhood friend of both



Strange deaths of four high
school students and suicides of a male

Male teacher who
committed suicide

THIS
BOY!!

was taken into
custody by the
police station
murders of four
The boy was
the 11th due to
denial, but the

Also, the
two men
the case.
Inspector
Katsuragi
went on
my be





OH, IT WAS
WHEN MY
MOM DIED.

WHEN DID
YOU GAIN
YOUR
POWER?



HEY YUTA,
WHY DO WE
HAVE THESE
POWERS?

DUNNO.



HEY,
I'M ALL
RIGHT.

I'VE
THOUGHT
ABOUT
THIS A LOT
MYSELF.

emotional
and mine?

I just
stepped
on an



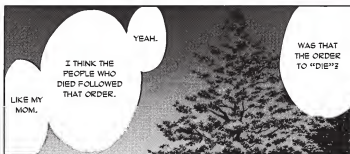
WHAT
ENTERED
OUR BODIES
IN THE FIRST
PLACE...?



WHY DID I
GAIN THESE
POWERS?



WHY DID
MOM
COMMIT
SUICIDE?





AND THOSE
WHO DIDN'T
COMPLY...
BECAME
"COMRADES"...

AND
GAINED
POWERS...



"SOMETHING"
CAME FROM
SOMEWHERE
AND ENTERED
HUMAN BODIES...

AND
ORDERED
HUMANS TO
DIE...



WHAT IS
THIS POWER
FOR...?

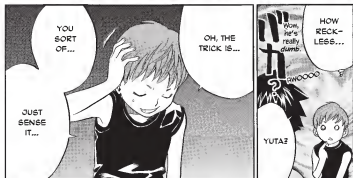


COMPARED
TO THE
OTHERS,
YOU'RE
INCOMPLETE...

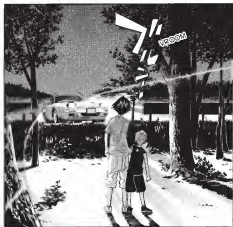
BUT YOU'RE
KINDA SPECIAL,
TAISUKE...
BECAUSE YOU
SEEM TO LACK A
LOT OF THINGS.

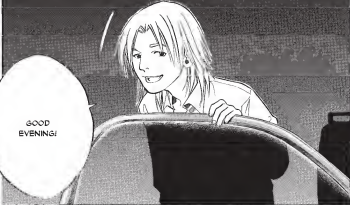
WHO
KNOWS...
BUT...











GOOD
EVENING!



BRM

DID I
SCARE YOU
GUYS? I'M
SORRY.



I GOT
LOST.

BUT I DIDN'T
EXPECT TO
FIND ANOTHER
"COMRADE."



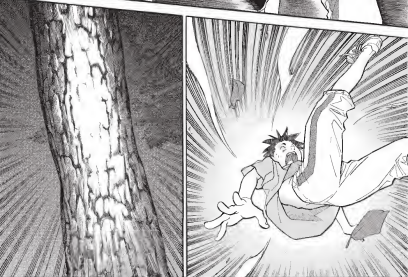
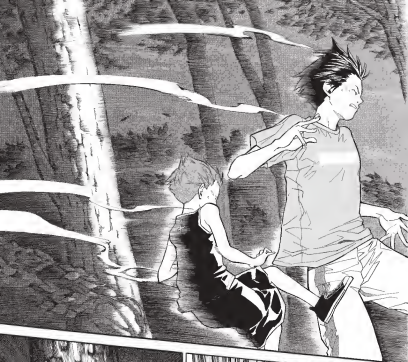
IT'S NOT
HIM...

H-
HUHE

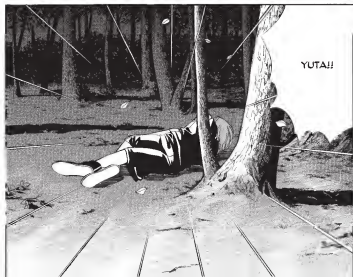
HE SEEMS
LIKE A NICE
GUY. YOU
SCARED ME.

















BUT I
THOUGHT
TWO TO ONE
WASN'T FAIR,
EITHER.

OH,
SORRY

STEP



TO MAKE
SURE YOU
DIE.

KATSUMATA-
SAN ASKED
ME...

STEP



MY POWER
IS "WIND."

NICE TO
MEET YOU,
TAISUKE
KANOU.

I'M
MORIO.

STEP

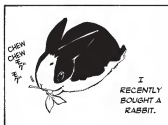


SHALL WE
BEGIN?

SO,

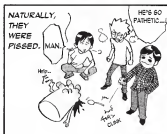
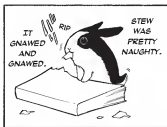
Continued in Volume 3

SUDDENLY...



Light Visual Manga 2





SLEEPING STEW

IT CAN
SLEEP
ANYWHERE.



STEW IS
PRETTY
TOUGH.

SOMETIMES
EVEN WITH ITS
HANDS

THANK YOU
SO MUCH FOR
READING ALL
THIS!!



THE ONLY
DRAWBACK
IS THE
POOP.





Alive

The Final Evolution

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Tai-chan, Kattsun, pages 20, 32

Tai-chan is a nickname for Taisuke, and Kattsun is a nickname Yura made for Katsumata.



Tabi wa michizure, page 73

Tabi wa michizure is a Japanese saying that means "Fellow travelers help each other."



Katsudo, page 76

Katsudon is a pork cutlet bowl, a relatively cheap Japanese version of a fast food dish. The price is close to a McDonald's value meal.



Itadakimasu, page 83

Itadakimasu is a Japanese greeting said before meals meaning "Thank you for this meal."

Zaru soba, page 118

Zaru soba are cold *soba* (buckwheat noodles) served on a flat osier basket (*zaru*).



**Wansuke,
page 163**

The first kanji character for "Taisuke" has a dot at the bottom. If the dot is placed at the top right corner, it becomes the kanji character for "dog." *Wansuke* is a slang term for "dog" or "doggie."



Kamaitachi, page 191

Kamaitachi is a mythical phenomenon in which winds mysteriously cut or slice people and objects like a *kama* (sickle). It was thought to be caused by an *itachi* (weasel), so the term *kamaitachi* (sickle weasel) came about.



ALIVE 2

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